

The Measure of a Man

This is the twentieth century measure of a man:
He builds his life with love and gladness
Into the structure of the Universe,
Co-operating with all manhood true
To make humanity divine.
For he who doubts the earth and sky is infidel,
And he who is unbrotherly is guilty of all crimes,
To seize earth's gifts unearned is brigandage;
To hold for self what others may not win
By equal service to the commonwealth is treason.
He who exploits his brother,
Grasping with subtle, selfish art
What the kind Universe bestows on all,
Is not yet man.
True manhood labours for the common good,
Truth is its king, faith-keeping is its plan,
And Love its final law.

—From "Love and the Universe," a new volume of poems
by A. D. Watson, M.D., Toronto.